

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1219619-0

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-NEW)

DATE: 3/24/69

FROM: SAG, NEW YORK (105- NEW) (P)

SUBJECT: J. E. MC DONALD  
IS-R (u)  
(OO: PHOENIX)

CLASSIFICATION: 10-24-97  
DECLASSIFICATION: 25X  
#387, 1961

7  
m/s

(u) For information of Phoenix, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past. furnished information on 2/25/69, concerning information [redacted]

[redacted] He has been identified as affiliated with the KGB ( Committee for State Security). Among the information furnished by [redacted] was the following: (S)

A letter dated [redacted] from [redacted] UN, NY, to Professor J. E. MC DONALD, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. This letter reads: (S)

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(S)

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CLASSIFIED BY 807 CLK ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE 100%  
DECLASSIFIED BY 25X THE PERIODS UNCLASSIFIED OTHERWISE  
DECLASSIFIED BY 25X THE PERIODS UNCLASSIFIED OTHERWISE

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED

BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE 100%  
DATE: 9/8/99 807 CLK 9/24/99

③-Bureau (105-NEW) (RM)

(1-105-153370)

3-Phoenix (105-NEW) (RM)

(1-105-)

1-New York (105-82304)

1-New York

EJM:bll  
(8)

754  
56 APR. 9 1969

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8 MAR 26 1969

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*D. J. Johnson*  
SOVIET AFFILIATION  
(S)



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan.

5010-108

NY 105-NEW

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(S)

(U) (S)  
NYC indices contain no information identifiable with  
Professor J. E. MC DONALD.

Phoenix is requested to initiate investigation regarding  
Professor J. E. MC DONALD, who is reportedly in contact with, or  
of interest to,  

This investigation should be handled in accordance with provisions  
relating to investigation of individuals in contact with Soviet b6  
b7C  
officials as contained in Section 105K, M of I. When this in-  
vestigation is completed, Phoenix should give consideration to  
requesting Bureau authority for an interview of MC DONALD to de-  
termine the extent of MC DONALD's contacts with  

(U)

NY 105-NEW

(u)

~~(S)~~ BECAUSE OF THE EXTREMELY SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE CONTACT  
WITH THE SUBJECT, IT IS NECESSARY THAT CAREFUL  
PARAPHRASING OF THE ABOVE MATERIAL BE USED TO PROTECT FULLY THE  
IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT, AS WELL AS THE NATURE OF THE CONTACT,  
PARTICULARLY IN THE CASES OF COMMUNICATIONS WHICH ARE FURNISHED  
OUTSIDE THE FBI. ~~(S)~~ (u)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 5/26/69

FROM : SAC, PHOENIX (100-6252) (P)

SUBJECT: CHANGED

PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD,

J. E. MC DONALD

IS-R

OO: Phoenix

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

DATE: 9/24/99 SP700/PS

aka 9/24/99

*C-1*  
The title of this communication is marked CHANGED  
to add the full name of the subject as shown in University of  
Arizona (UA) records.

Re New York let to Bureau, 3/24/69, entitled, "J. E.  
MC DONALD; [IS-R]" *IS-R*  
Report of SA JOHN M. ALBERT dated 5/19/69, at  
Phoenix entitled [REDACTED]

(Phoenix file 100-6251).

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are ten copies  
of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) entitled, "PROFESSOR JAMES  
EDWARD MC DONALD, Senior Physicist, Institute of Atmospheric  
Physics, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona."

Enclosed for New York are two copies of the above  
LHM and one copy of above referenced report on the [REDACTED]

Informants

PX T-1 is [REDACTED]

PX T-2 is [REDACTED]

File Location

[REDACTED]

- ④ - Bureau (Enc. 10) (RM)  
(1 - 105-153370) [REDACTED]  
3 - New York (Enc. 3) (RM)  
2 - Phoenix

RPP:gjk  
(9)

*REC-15*

MCT-19

105-191677-2

10 MAY 29 1969

*Hold Dissemination  
fmh 6/24/69*

CLASSIFIED BY SP700/PS  
DECLASSIFY ON 12/25/99  
#367,901

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SOVET SP700



5010-108

PX 100-6252

PP:gjk

~~SECRET~~

contacted by SA RAYMER P. PETERS, JR.

The LHM is classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~, as disclosure of information therein from the above live informants could reasonably result in their identification, thereby jeopardizing their future effectiveness.

As set out in the LHM, the subject is a prominent Atmospheric Physicist and is becoming well known publicly for his belief that Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) are extraterrestrial and are real. The letter from [redacted] to the subject [redacted] as set out in re New York letter. refers

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(U) ~~SECRET~~  
It appears that Professor MC DONALD's letter to [redacted] (contents of which are not known) might have been in itself an innocuous, sincere contact on the part of Professor MC DONALD; however, in view of his background and long-time leadership in "New Left" activities in the Tucson area, it is quite probable that Professor MC DONALD would be highly susceptible to an approach made by a Soviet intelligence, particularly concerning a research done in his field, of Atmospheric Physics. At this point it is not known whether Professor MC DONALD would be at all cooperative in an interview.

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Professor MC DONALD's [redacted] for some years has been [redacted] 17Dhoonly file 161-342 (Bufile 161- ) [redacted]

and

all at the [redacted]

IA [redacted]

[redacted] and it is believed he would be

~~SECRET~~

PX 100-6252

RPP:gjk

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completely cooperative and reliable in any authorized interview concerning this matter. Therefore, Bureau authority is requested for an interview with [redacted] along the following lines:

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1. Information concerning Professor MC DONALD's "Plea for International Scientific Study of the Problem of the UFO," and Professor MC DONALD's activities regarding this. (S)(u)

2. His knowledge of any contact Professor MC DONALD has had with foreign agencies in his UFO studies, particularly [redacted] Soviet bloc countries (S)

3. His evaluation of Professor MC DONALD so far as his loyalty is concerned and his opinion as to whether Professor MC DONALD would be amenable to interview.

On 5/20/69, [redacted]

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[redacted] interviewed by SA RAYMER P. PETERS, JR., concerning [redacted] various SDS members at the [redacted] VA, including [redacted] [redacted] commented that he recently received information that Professor JAMES E. MC DONALD is "disenchanted" with [redacted] [redacted] constant "New Left" activities and they plan to separate. He further said he has heard that [redacted] This information has not yet been confirmed through other sources; however, if true, it should have some bearing on MC DONALD's cooperation in any interview.

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Phoenix, Arizona  
May 26, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD  
Senior Physicist,  
Institute of Atmospheric Physics  
University of Arizona (UA)  
Tucson, Arizona.

The current Student and Faculty Directory for the University of Arizona (UA), Tucson, Arizona, for the 1968-1969 academic year, lists "James E. Mc Donald, Ph.D., Senior Physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics and Professor, Meteorology Department, residence, 3461 East Third Street, Tucson."

On April 11, 1969, [redacted]  
[redacted] UA, Tucson, made available records which show the following:

James Edward Mc Donald was employed at the University, April 1, 1954, as Associate Director, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, and Associate Professor of Physics. On July 1, 1956, his title was changed to Scientific Director, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, and Associate Professor of Physics. On July 1, 1957, his title was changed to Senior Physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics; Professor of Meteorology; these are the positions he now holds.

The records show he was born May 7, 1920, at Duluth, Minnesota. He attended the University of Omaha from 1938 to 1942, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1942. He attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1943 to 1945, receiving

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Group 1

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2AKM/BP  
CN 10-24-91  
#36746

ENCLOSURE

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PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD

a Master of Science degree in 1945. He attended Iowa State from 1946 to 1951, receiving his doctorate in 1951.

The records show that he was on Sabbatical Leave from July 1, 1963 to December 31, 1963. In his application for this leave, dated April 12, 1963, he said, "I will continue working on research and affairs of Naval Research Contract # NR-082-164." He stated his main reason in applying for Sabbatical Leave was to write up already completed research for publication.

His salary as of May 18, 1969, was \$21,000 per year.

The records show that he currently resides at 3461 East Third Street, Tucson, with his [redacted]

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[redacted]  
PX T-1 (5/20/69).

The SDS is characterized in the appendix.

Concerning the PFA, the March 16, 1968 edition of "The Tucson Daily Citizen," a daily newspaper published at Tucson, Arizona, carried an article which stated in part, as follows:

"The formation of Peace and Freedom Associations, a coalition of local groups dedicated to end the war in Vietnam and to ending racial injustice at home, was announced today. The center will serve as a communications interchange between local and national peace groups and will be the focal point of local efforts

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PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD

against the Vietnam War." A list of member organizations set out in the article included the SDS, above.

On October 18, 1968, [redacted] at a meeting of the PFA in Tucson, reported to the group on her recent attendance at a convention of the SDS at Boulder, Colorado.

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PX T-1 (10/18/68).

A bulletin put out by the Tucson Peace Center (TPC) and received through the mail, February 7, 1968, advertised the fact that on February 8, 1968, there would be a public meeting, where Dr. James E. Mc Donald would speak on the subject of napalm. The bulletin described Mc Donald as "Professor of Atmospheric Physics at the University of Arizona and Consultant to the Peace Center."

PX T-2 (2/12/68).

On February 18, 1969, PX T-1 advised that an accurate summary of the aims and purposes of the TPC was set out in a mimeograph letter dated October 22, 1968, from the TPC President and sent to all persons on the TPC mailing list. This letter stated in part, "The Tucson Peace Center serves as a clearing house for information on peace activities and programs in the Tucson area." The source said the TPC has never at any time advocated the use of violence in demonstrations or protests.

On May 20, 1969, PX T-1 advised that although Professor James E. Mc Donald possibly condones [redacted] activities in the various "New Left" groups in the Tucson area, he very seldom accompanies her in any of these activities and has taken very little part in such activities.

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PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD

The July 27, 1968, edition of the "Arizona Daily Star," a newspaper published daily at Tucson, Arizona, carried the following article:

## UA Physicist To Spur Scientific UFO Probe

Will Appear Before House Committee

By JUDY DONOVAN

A University of Arizona physicist will attempt to spur on extensive scientific investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects when he appears Monday before a congressional hearing in Washington, D. C.

Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist at the university's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, said a thorough investigation of UFOs is long overdue. Twenty years have passed since the objects first attracted public attention, he said, and officialdom is still taking a "ho-hum" attitude toward the matter.

"UFOs constitute an extraordinarily important scientific problem, the greatest of these times, and it has been shoved under the rug," he remarked.

The UA physicist who is ap-



DR. JAMES McDONALD

pearing with five other scientists from around the United States, will present testimony before the U.S. House of Repre-

sentatives Committee on Science and Astronautics. McDonald said Rep. Morris K. Udall was highly instrumental in efforts to arrange for the special Unidentified Flying Objects Symposium.

McDonald is organizing the bulk of his presentation around a set of typical questions people ask about UFOs, such as, "Why they aren't picked up on radar?", and "Why they don't contact us?"

He will include examples of what he termed "scientifically ludicrous explanations" that hinge on some scientists' meteorological and atmospheric physical weather explanations for UFOs.

"I particularly take issue with Dr. Donald H. Menzel, former director of Harvard Observatory, who has written two books on UFOs and mainly explains them away as meteorological phenomena. Another work that can't be taken seriously is a recent book by Philip Klass, senior editor of Aviation Week Magazine, which purports that UFOs are meteorologically generated plasmas of the ball lightning type."

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PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD

The April 6, 1969, edition of the "Arizona Daily Star," carried the following article:

## UA Prof Will Challenge Condon Report On UFO's

2-24-2 UA PROF PAGE 5A

The Condon report on unidentified flying objects will be challenged before the Vandenberg Chapter, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, by Dr. James E. McDonald when he speaks at Vandenberg Air Force Base Friday.

The senior physicist of the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics will speak on "UFO's and the Condon Report: A Dissenting View." As a dissenter, Dr. McDonald expects to stress the fact that the Condon report cov-

ers only a "minute fraction" of the significant cases available for study.

From his studies of several years Dr. McDonald believes that UFO's are probably extraterrestrial and are real.

His talk at the air force base in California will be the first in a series of 15 lectures he will give in the next 12 months to members of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in Oklahoma, California, Arizona, Iowa, Washington, D.C.; Missouri, Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

-5-

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PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD

APPENDIX

STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

The Students for a Democratic Party (SDS), as it is known today, came into being at a founding convention held at Port Huron, Michigan, in June, 1962. The SDS is an association of young people on the left and has a current program of protesting the draft, promoting a campaign for youth to develop a conscientious objector status, denouncing United States intervention in the war in Vietnam, and to "radically transform" the university community, and provide for its complete control by students.

Gus Hall, General Secretary, Communist Party, USA, when interviewed by a representative of United Press International in San Francisco, California, on May 14, 1965, described the SDS as a part of the "responsible left" which the Party has "going for us." At the June, 1965, SDS National Convention, an anticomunist proviso was removed from the SDS constitution. In the October 7, 1966, issue of "New Left Notes," the official publication of SDS, an SDS spokesman stated that there are some communists in SDS and they are welcome.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

6\*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONPhoenix, Arizona  
May 26, 1969In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. .

Title                   PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD  
                         Senior Physicist,  
                         Institute of Atmospheric Physics  
                         University of Arizona  
                         Tucson, Arizona

Character

Reference Letterhead memorandum, dated and  
captioned as above at Phoenix,  
Arizona.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable  
information in the past.

- 7 -

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

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1969

 Name Searching Unit - Room 6527 Service Unit - Room 6524 Forward to File Review Attention - G.M. QUINN Return to **RM 826 EXT 2018**

Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

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DATE 10-23-97 BY SP2 ACN/bpd

#387,961 SP2 ACN/bpd

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## NUMEROUS REFERENCE

## SEARCH SLIP

Subj: James E. McDonald

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James Edward McDonald161-1891- 20, Jun 3-6225, Jun 8-65No abnormalities searched

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
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 Supervisor Room Ext.

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## Type of References Requested:

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 DATE 2-12-98 BY SP2 ALM/BP  
#387,961

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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<u>✓</u>	<u>14-9098</u>	
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	<u>62-46140-12</u>	
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	<u>62-112423-77</u>	
	<u>100-446997-38-1</u>	
	<u>100-451572-4</u>	
	<u>100-453551-2</u>	
	<u>100-453871-2</u>	
	<u>105-138315-25899-1</u>	
	<u>James Edward</u>	
	<u>116-144354</u>	

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

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## Type of References Requested:

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MAY 1962 EDITION  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 29

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS/pk*

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD  
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: June 20, 1969

~~SECRET~~

1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan  
1 - Mr. G. M. Quinn

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop ~~RECD~~  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan ~~RECD~~  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

O-1 PX 9-5-69  
let WBS 9-17-69

*b7C*  
Submitted to obtain authority to interview  
both professors, University of Arizona (UA).

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*b7C*  
Source furnished letter written by Committee for  
State Security officer

*b7C*  
to subject requesting information  
on thermodynamic properties of the earth's atmosphere from  
10 to 100 kilometers. Subject, born 5-7-20, is senior physicist,  
authority on Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO). Applicant-  
type investigation of subject in 1962, favorable re loyalty,  
character, and reputation. Subject's wife is active in  
Students for a Democratic Society and peace movement. Subject  
is disenchanted with "New Left" activities and  
separation planned

*b7C*  
Department of Meteorology, UA, is friendly to Bureau and believed he  
will be completely cooperative. is subject recent  
applicant-type investigation, results completely favorable.  
interviewed in 1962 investigation of subject, advised  
subject and are not pacifists, but interested in peace.  
recommended subject for position of trust and confidence.

*b7C*  
CLASSIFIED BY: 10-25-71  
DECLASSIFIED BY: 25X DECEMBER 31, 1969  
DATE: 10-25-71  
CLASSIFICATION: 25X DECEMBER 31, 1969

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Phoenix desires interview concerning  
subject's UFO studies, knowledge of contacts with foreign  
governments, particularly Soviet-bloc countries, current  
evaluation of subject, and opinion whether subject amenable  
to interview. No reason to anticipate embarrassment. We  
should authorize investigation of subject and interview of  
since we know is using position to obtain  
scientific information.

105-191677-3

Enclosure

LML:mst/sc (5)

EX-116 REC 36

JUN 25 1969

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105-191677

53 JUL 1 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~SECRET~~ 5-fmk

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan,  
RE: PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD  
105-191677

~~SECRET~~

RECOMMENDATION:

Attached for approval is letter to Phoenix in accordance with above instructing interview be conducted away from campus, UA, and explain not interested in legitimate educational functions.

*Frank Wm. McDonald*

*DHS*

*b*

~~SECRET~~

SAC, Phoenix (100-6252)

SECRET

6/23/69

Director, FBI (105-191677)-2

PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD  
IS - R 13 (u)

Reurlet 5/26/69.

1 - Mr. C.D. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. W.A. Branigan  
1 - Mr. G.M. Quinn

21798 SPZACN/bp  
CLASSIFIED BY SPZACN/bp  
DECLASSIFIED ON 25X 1/6  
#1369961

In accordance with your request authority is granted to interview [redacted]. Explain to [redacted] that we are not interested in legitimate educational contacts and functions. Interview of [redacted] should be conducted away from the campus of the University of Arizona. Furnish results in form for dissemination.

Attention is called to the fact that [redacted] was interviewed 2/20/62 concerning the subject as set out in your file 161-107 on the subject.

If you determine it is desirable to request authority to interview subject, submit request on FD-379 in accordance with page 29, Section 105K, Manual of Instructions. (u) (S)

LML:mst/lis (u)

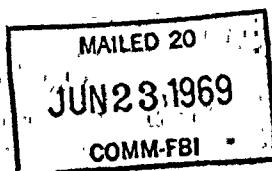
(7)

NOTE:

DECLASSIFIED BY SP7 C/RS  
ON 4/13/59  
Appeal # 98-2129

Based on memorandum W. A. Branigan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan, captioned as above, dated 6/20/69, prepared by LML:mst/SC. (u)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.



Tolson  
DeLoach  
Mohr  
Bishop  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
Felt  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

59JUL 11 1969  
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-191677) DATE: 9/17/69

FROM : SAC, PHOENIX (100-6252) (C)

SUBJECT: PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MCDONALD, aka

J. E. McDonald

(IS-R) (u)

OO: Phoenix

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

5/5/70-LTS/ht  
copy to OSI

Re Phoenix letter with its LHM, 5/26/69, entitled,  
"PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MCDONALD, aka J. E. McDonald" and  
Bulet to Phoenix, 6/23/69.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are nine copies  
of an LHM entitled, "PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MCDONALD, SENIOR  
PHYSICIST, INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS, UNIVERSITY OF  
ARIZONA, TUCSON, ARIZONA"; two copies of the LHM are  
enclosed for New York for information.

Agent who interviewed [redacted]  
is SA RAYMER P. PETERS, JR.

The LHM is classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ as this  
inquiry was based on information obtained from an extremely  
sensitive source of the NYO.

As set out in the LHM, [redacted]

[redacted] said he has no doubt whatever of the subject's  
loyalty to this country. He said he feels certain the  
subject's contact with the Soviet representative at the  
UN Secretariat in mid-1968 in connection with the subject's  
"UFO" studies, was completely innocuous and he does not believe  
that MCDONALD would be receptive to any approach by the Soviets  
or any other country to act in any capacity against the best  
interests of the United States. He said Professor MCDONALD  
has mentioned no further correspondence with the above Soviet  
representative other than the initial reply to MCDONALD's  
original inquiry. MCDONALD uses the same secretary as does [redacted]

4 Bureau (RM) (Enc. 9)  
(1 - ~~ENCL 185370~~) (6)

2 - New York (RM) (Enc. 2)  
(1 - 105- [redacted])  
(1 - 105-82304)

1 - Phoenix

RPP:gjk

(7)

REC-23

EX-111

Professor James Edward McDonald

5 SEP 19 1969

RECD 100-3-69  
SERIAL 100-3-69  
FILE NUMBER 100-3-69  
NEW FILE 100-3-69

344  
5 OCT 10 1969

~~SECRET~~

(SOVIET SECTION)

PX 100-6252  
RPP:gjk

~~SECRET~~

(U) [redacted] and she has made no mention of any such further correspondence between MCDONALD and the Soviet representative.

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[redacted] said he would be alert for any indication of such continued contacts and he would contact the Tucson Resident Agency of the FBI, should he develop any such information.

[redacted] is considered completely reliable and he assured interviewing agent that he would keep this matter in complete confidence.

At this point it does not appear that an interview of Professor MCDONALD would be productive and could possibly result in embarrassment to the Bureau. Although Professor MCDONALD might not object to such an interview it is almost certain that [redacted] (SI subject of the Phoenix Office), would attempt to publicly denounce the Bureau for such an interview. For this reason a request for authority to interview the subject is not being made at this time.

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(U) If New York develops further information concerning this matter from [redacted] or other sources, such information should be furnished to Phoenix.

b7D

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Phoenix, Arizona  
September 17, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MCDONALD

SENIOR PHYSICIST

INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZONA

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ACM/hip  
ON 10-29-97  
# 389,961

On September 15, 1969

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[redacted] University of Arizona (UA),  
Tucson, Arizona furnished the following information to a  
Special Agent of the FBI:

Professor James Edward McDonald, Ph.D., is currently employed as senior physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, at the UA. He has been employed at the UA since 1954 and [redacted] has been closely associated with him both professionally and socially since 1946 when both were students at Iowa State University, Iowa.

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[redacted] said he considers Professor McDonald a sincere, conscientious and dedicated scientist who is very outspoken in both his scientific and political views. [redacted]

[redacted] who described himself as a political conservative, said his own political views are quite opposite those of Professor McDonald and although he sees the McDonald family quite frequently socially, they seldom discuss political matters because of this divergence of views. He said he has no doubt whatsoever that Professor McDonald is completely loyal to the United States.

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[redacted] said Professor McDonald for the past several years has been obsessed with the idea that Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) are probably extraterrestrial and are real. He has lectured before various groups throughout the country during the past year on the subject of UFOs and has publicly challenged reports by the U. S. Air Force and other

b6  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~Group 1~~

~~Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification.~~

105-191677-4  
ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PROFESSOR JAMES EDWARD MCDONALD

agencies who discount the possibility that UFOs are real and from outer space.

In mid-1968, as part of his research into the question of UFOs, Professor McDonald wrote to a number of representatives of various countries soliciting information concerning sightings of UFOs in these countries. He entitled this project, "A Plea for International Scientific Study of the Problem of the UFO." The principal reason for this effort was to obtain reports of UFO sightings from more or less underdeveloped areas of the world where people reporting these sightings would not have been previously exposed to publicity about UFOs. [redacted]

[redacted] said Professor McDonald contacted representatives of several agencies at the United Nations in New York, including the Soviet representative of the Outer Space Affairs Group, United Nations Secretariat. [redacted] does not know the name of this individual. He said Professor McDonald mentioned receiving a reply from this Soviet representative but he does not recall whether Professor McDonald ever mentioned any further contacts with that individual. [redacted] said he believes that if there had been further contacts between Professor McDonald and the above Soviet representative, that he, Professor McDonald, probably would have mentioned this fact.

[redacted] said his department at the UA is not engaged in any classified research projects and Professor McDonald at the present time does not have access to any classified research material.

[redacted] reiterated that he has never had any reason whatever to question Professor McDonald's complete loyalty to the United States.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2\*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b7C

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b7C

SECRET//NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

March 18, 1971

BY LIAISON

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning [redacted] and some other individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 AUN/lim  
ON 10-21-97  
#387,961

b6  
b7C

Dr. James Edward McDonald

b6  
b7c

This letter of transmittal may be declassified when the enclosures bearing a classification are removed.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (7)

DELIVERED BY LIAISON  
ON 3/19/71 *part*

ENCLOSURE

1 - Mr. Mohr - Enclosures (sent direct)  
1 - Mr. Gale - Enclosures (sent direct)

~~SECRET//NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION~~

1 - Mr. Mohr - Enclosures (sent direct)  
1 - Mr. Gale - Enclosures (sent direct)

L.M.G.-mch (7)

closure  
EX-1

REC'D

NOT RECORDED

12 MAR 04 1974

MAIL ROOM

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

51 MAR 26 1971 MAIL ROOM

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

ORIGINAL FILED IN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10-29-12  
CLASSIFIED SP2AUM (b)(7)  
DECLASSIFIED 25X  
JF 1381/961

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 18, 1971

DR. JAMES EDWARD MC DONALD *Sullivan*

Dr. James Edward McDonald, who you advised was born May 7, 1920, in Duluth, Minnesota, and who resides at 3461 East Third Street, Tucson, Arizona, was the subject of favorable applicant-type investigations in 1949 and 1962. A summary of these investigations dated March 12, 1962, is attached. (161-1891)

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He was also the subject of a security-type investigation in 1969, concerning his contact with [redacted]

Our investigation indicated Dr. McDonald's contact was in connection with his study of unidentified flying objects and his attempts to obtain information from sparsely populated parts of the world. No evidence of subversive activities on his part was determined. (105-191677)

Our files indicate that [redacted] of captioned individual, [redacted]

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As of late 1970.

In October, 1968, [redacted] reportedly attended the SDS National Convention in Boulder, Colorado, and was overheard telling a group in Tucson upon her return that she favored violence, if necessary, to achieve the goals of the SDS. (100-453871)

A confidential source in a position to know advised in mid-1969 he had recently received information that Professor James Edward McDonald was disenchanted with [redacted] constant New Left activities and that they planned to separate. The source also said he has heard [redacted] (105-191677)

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The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Tolson  
Sullivan  
Mohr  
Bishop  
Brennan, C.D.  
Callahan  
Casper  
Conrad  
Dalbey  
Felt  
Gale  
Rosen  
Tavel  
Walters  
Soyers  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

Enclosure

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Group 1

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

KPW:pan/lg/mjj. (7)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

SEE NOTE - NEXT PAGE

JCF 105-191677-5

ENCLOSURE

TP 8

Dr. James Edward McDonald

~~SECRET~~

NOTE: Per request of Alexander P. Butterfield, Deputy Assistant to the President. This memo classified ~~Confidential~~ in as much as it contains information previously so classified

~~SECRET~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

19

- Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
 Service Unit - Room 6524  
 Forward to File Review  
 Attention \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return to \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

- Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
 Subversive References Only  
 Nonsubversive References Only  
 Main \_\_\_\_\_ References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

- Restricted to Locality of City, Min - Iowa  
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose) Nebr  
 Buildup  Variations Mass

Subject Mr. Donald, Dr. James EdwardBirthdate & ALL INFORMATION CONTAINEDAddress HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-29-97 BY SP2 MM/BSR

Localities #387,961R# 645 Date 3/10 Searcher Initials 223Prod. 32 L+L

## FILE NUMBER SERIAL

<u>116-144354</u>	<u>001</u>	<u>6/2/99</u>
<u>116-144354</u>	<u>I</u>	
<u>105-191677</u>	<u>I</u>	
<u>161-1891</u>	<u>I</u>	
<u>161-1891-20</u>	<u>sum</u>	<u>3/2/62</u>
	<u>I</u>	<u>-25 sum</u>
		<u>8/18/65</u>
<u>James E.</u>		
<u>1-1152-38</u>	<u>NS</u>	
<u>26-0-5204, 5209, 5203</u>		
<u>62-112423-77</u>		
<u>62-46140-12, 13</u>		
<u>100-446997-38-1</u>		
<u>100-462021-1</u>		
<u>100-453871-2</u>	<u>I</u>	
<u>100-453551-3, 2</u>		
<u>100-451572-4</u>		
<u>105-165706-38-27</u>		
<u>105-138315-2589ep1</u>		
<u>176-1542-2</u>	<u>ep1</u>	

## NUMEROUS REFERENCE

## SEARCH SL

Subj: Mr. Donald James Edward

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

R# 645 Date 3/10 Searcher Initial 223

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

## FILE NUMBER

## SERIAL

James~~MF~~ 7-93855~~MF~~ 85-116771~~MF~~ 101-31716-4031~~MF~~ 102-12783-270,282,~~MF~~ 274~~MF~~ 63-4296-38-183~~MF~~ 1-30063-4~~MF~~ 91-5535-2629 p1,19,

p 20,21,22,23

~~MF~~ 91-5535-1931J. E.47-10604 MF~~MF~~ 105-465706-2 31 Sep 357Edward31-28962 MF 1315 200~~MF~~ 105-34078-43-176CalledG-0 MAR 10 1971

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KV-1